

Arlington Master Plan Advisory Committee

Central School, Lower Level - 7:00 PM

Minutes: January 8, 2015

Approved: January 22, 2015

Members present: Charles Kalaskas, Carol Svenson, Bob Radochia, Harris Band, Ann LeRoy, Wendy Richter, Joe Barr

Members absent: Eric Bourassa, Sheri Baron, Pam Heidell, Melissa Tintocalis

Also present : Joe Curro (BoS); Carol Kowalski, Ted Fields, Laura Wiener, Joey Glushko, and David Fields (Planning Department)

The meeting was called to order at 7:05PM by Co-Chair Charlie Kalaskas. He introduced the very full agenda before the committee. There was a handout- "Arlington Master Plan – Abbreviated Draft" which was created by Staff – a document of about 25 pages which reflected the goals, recommendations, and implementation table of the much larger full Draft Master Plan; it also included a demographic profile. This, or similar document, would be made available for the Jan. 12, 2015 ARB public hearing on the Draft Master Plan. The Committee reviewed this document. Comments were generally supportive, but it was observed that the "Demographic Profile" section disrupted the flow of the content; there was consensus that this section should be removed from the document. On page 11, in the Historical/Cultural Resource Area recommendations, it should be added that the Town should seek recognition as a Cultural District. The topic of climate change and Arlington policy or program development in response to same should be added. For the Implementation Tables, a key should be added to explain the acronyms used in the Table.

After reviewing the summary, the Committee discussed the most recent Draft Master Plan (Dec. 29, 2014). The group was reminded that this would be a "living document", reviewed and altered periodically. Comments included the following: the new Cultural Section of Chapter 7 (Historical and Cultural Resource Areas) needs to be revisited/revised; the report states that it is a ten-year plan for implementation, and it was observed that it should be stated as longer. Over-all, the Committee seemed accepting of the Draft Plan.

It was decided not to go into specifics regarding the 20-36 Mass. Ave. location as a potential exemplary development site. It could be used as an example of how/where mixed use development would be beneficial to the Town; it was felt that only general comment regarding this property would be used – no specifics.

The Committee discussed the procedure for the ARB Master Plan public hearing scheduled for Monday, Jan. 12. Carol Kowalski had a handout covering what would be expected of the Master Plan Committee at this hearing. Comments by attendees would be limited to 3-minutes. The ARB will not make a decision on Jan. 12; comment period will extend to Jan. 20; the ARB will receive these comments, and a decision can be anticipated at their Jan. 26 meeting.

The minutes of the meeting of December 4, 2014 were reviewed and approved as presented.

The 2015 meeting schedule was reviewed; changes are anticipated as the Master Plan process proceeds. The outreach process and schedule will be discussed at an upcoming meeting – Jan., or Feb. 5.

The meeting adjourned at 9:15 PM.

Minutes submitted by Joey Glushko